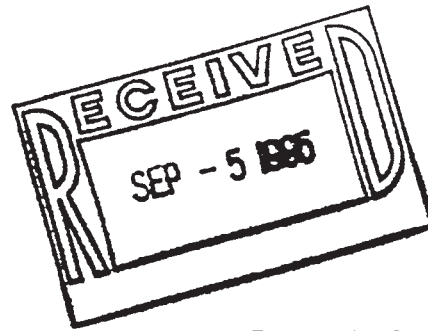




United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service  
970 Illinois Avenue • Bangor, Maine 04401 • Tel. (207)947-6622 • FAX (207)990-1957



Mr. William M. Plumptre  
Project Manager  
Gannett Fleming, Inc.  
P.O. Box 67100  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-7100

August 31, 1995

Subject: Environmental Assessment, Proposed Interchange I-95  
at Stillwater Avenue, Bangor, Maine

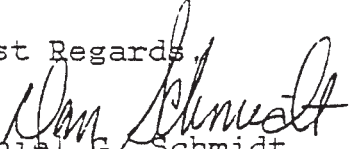
Dear Mr. Plumptre:

As requested, I have attached copies of lists of hydric soils with acreages for Penobscot County, this includes lists of hydric components, prime farmlands, and additional farmland of statewide importance.

The Unique Farmland list which you requested has never been developed.

If you have any questions concerning this material please give me a call at area code 207-947-6622.

Best Regards,

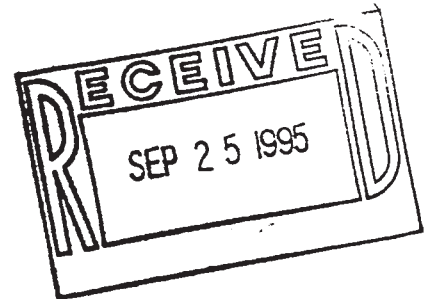
  
Daniel G. Schmidt  
District Conservationist



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
NORTHEAST REGION  
One Blackburn Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930

September 20, 1995

William M. Plumpton  
Gannett Fleming, Inc.  
P.O. Box 67100  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-7100



RE: Environmental Assessment  
Proposed Interchange I-95 at Stillwater Avenue  
Bangor, Maine

Dear Mr. Plumpton:

We have reviewed your letter of August 17, 1995 concerning the creation of a new interchange at Interstate 95 (I-95) and Stillwater Avenue in the City of Bangor, Maine.

Although we appreciate the opportunity to review this proposed project, it is not expected to impact resources of concern to this agency.

If you have any questions or need additional information, you may contact Jill Ortiz at 508/281-9312.

Sincerely,

Chris Mantzaris  
Chief, Habitat and  
Protected Resource Division





# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
New England Field Office  
22 Bridge Street, Unit #1  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-4986

August 29, 1995

William M. Plumpton  
Gannett Fleming, Inc.  
P.O. Box 67100  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-7100

Dear Mr. Plumpton:

This responds to your letter dated August 17, 1995 for information on the presence of federally listed and proposed, endangered or threatened species in accordance with the proposed construction of a new highway interchange in Bangor, Maine.

Based on information currently available to us, no federally-listed or proposed, threatened and endangered species under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are known to occur in the project area, with the exception of occasional, transient bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) or peregrine falcons (*Falco peregrinus*). However, we suggest that you contact Sarah Holbrook, Maine Natural Areas Program, State House Station 130, Augusta, Maine 04333, 207-624-6843 for information on state-listed species that may be present.

Preparation of a Biological Assessment or further consultation with us under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act is not required. Should project plans change, or additional information on listed or proposed species becomes available, this determination may be reconsidered.

A list of federally-designated endangered and threatened species in Maine is enclosed for your information. Thank you for your cooperation and please contact Linda Welch of our Maine Field Office at 207-827-5938 if we can be of further assistance regarding endangered species.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Bartlett", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael J. Bartlett  
Supervisor  
New England Field Office

Enclosure

FEDERALLY LISTED ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES  
IN MAINE

<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Scientific Name</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Distribution</u>
FISHES:			
Sturgeon, shortnose*	<u>Acipenser brevirostrum</u>	E	Kennebec River & Atlantic Coastal Waters
REPTILES:			
Turtle, leatherback*	<u>Dermochelys coriacea</u>	E	Oceanic summer resident
Turtle, loggerhead*	<u>Caretta caretta</u>	T	Oceanic summer resident
Turtle, Atlantic ridley*	<u>Lepidochelys kempii</u>	E	Oceanic summer resident
BIRDS:			
Eagle, bald	<u>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</u>	T	Entire state-nesting habitat
Falcon, American peregrine	<u>Falco peregrinus anatum</u>	E	Current nesting: Hancock, Penobscot, Piscataquis, Oxford, & Franklin Counties; entire state-migratory
Falcon, Arctic peregrine	<u>Falco peregrinus tundrius</u>	T	Entire state migratory- no nesting
Plover, Piping	<u>Charadrius melodus</u>	T	Atlantic coast
Roseate Tern	<u>Sterna dougallii dougallii</u>	E	Atlantic coast
MAMMALS:			
Wolf, eastern timber	<u>Canis lupus</u>	E	Somerset
Cougar, eastern	<u>Felis concolor cougar</u>	E	Entire state-may be extirpated
Whale, blue*	<u>Balaenoptera musculus</u>	E	Oceanic
Whale, finback*	<u>Balaenoptera physalus</u>	E	Oceanic
Whale, humpback*	<u>Megaptera novaeangliae</u>	E	Oceanic
Whale, right*	<u>Eubalaena</u> spp. (all species)	E	Oceanic
Whale, sei*	<u>Balaenoptera borealis</u>	E	Oceanic
Whale, sperm*	<u>Physeter catodon</u>	E	Oceanic
MOLLUSKS:			
NONE			
PLANTS:			
Small Whorled Pogonia	<u>Isotria medeoloides</u>	T	York, Kennebec, Cumberland, Oxford Counties
Lousewort, Furbish's	<u>Pedicularis furbishiae</u>	E	Aroostook County
Orchid, Eastern prairie fringed	<u>Platanthera leucophaea</u>	T	Aroostook County

\* Except for sea turtle nesting habitat, principal responsibility for these species is vested with the National Marine Fisheries Service

Angus S. King, Jr.  
Governor



Ronald B. Lovaglio  
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Telephone (207) 287-2211  
FAX # (207) 287-2400



September 19, 1995

William M. Plumpton  
Gannett Fleming, Inc.  
P.O. Box 67100  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-7100

Re: Proposed Interchange I-95 at Stillwater Avenue

Dear Mr. Plumpton:

I have searched the Natural Areas Program's Biological and Conservation Data System files in response to your request of August 9, 1995, for the presence of rare or unique botanical features and Registered Critical Areas documented from the vicinity of Stillwater Avenue in the City of Bangor, Maine. Rare and unique botanical features include the habitat of rare, threatened, or endangered plant species and unique or exemplary natural communities; Registered Critical Areas are natural areas that the landowner has agreed to voluntarily conserve. Our review involves examining maps, manual, and computerized records, other sources of information such as scientific articles or published references, and the personal knowledge of staff or cooperating experts.

Our official response covers only botanical features and Registered Critical Areas. For authoritative information and official response for zoological features you must make a similar request to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, 284 State Street, Augusta, Maine 04333.

According to the information currently in our Biological and Conservation Data System files, there are no rare botanical features or Registered Critical Areas documented specifically within the project area. However, I have included a list of rare and unique botanical features documented to occur in the City of Bangor as well as a rank explanation sheet for your reference. Rare species and exemplary natural communities may occur on the subject property if suitable habitat is available. To ensure that such features are not inadvertently harmed, we suggest that you have the property inventoried by a qualified field biologist for rare or unusual plants, and natural communities.



This finding is available and appropriate for preparation and review of environmental assessments, but it is not a substitute for on-site surveys. The quantity and quality of data maintained by the Natural Areas Program are dependent on the research and observations of many individuals and organizations; and, comprehensive field surveys do not exist for all natural areas in Maine. For this reason, in the absence of a specific field investigation, the Maine Natural Areas Program cannot provide a definitive statement on the presence or absence of unusual natural features in this site.

The Natural Areas Program welcomes coordination with individuals or organizations proposing environmental alteration, or conducting environmental assessments. If, however, data provided by the Natural Areas Program are to be published in any form, the Program should be informed at the outset and credited as the source.

The Natural Areas Program has instituted a fee structure to recover the actual cost of processing your request for information. Our fee is \$75.00 an hour. Please return the bottom of the invoice along with remittance to the Maine Natural Areas Program, 159 Hospital Street, State House Station #93, Augusta, Maine 04333.

Thank you for using the Natural Areas Program in the environmental review process. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions about the Natural Areas Program or about Registered Critical Areas and rare or unique botanical features on this site.

Sincerely,



Sarah H. Holbrook  
Information Manager  
Maine Natural Areas Program

Enclosures

MAINE NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM  
RARE OR EXEMPLARY BOTANICAL FEATURES DOCUMENTED FROM BANGOR  
EXTANT RECORDS

14 SEP 1995

SPECIES NAME	COMMON NAME	GLOBAL RANK	STATE RANK	FEDERAL STATUS	STATE STATUS	HABITAT
ALLIUM CANADENSE	WILD GARLIC	G5	S2		SC	Low woods, thickets, and meadows
CAREX ORONENSIS	ORONO SEDGE	G2	S2	C2	E(SC)	Fields, meadows and clearings
CAREX TENUIFLORA	SPARSE-FLOWERED SEDGE	G5	S2		SC	Bogs and mossy woods or pond margins
EQUISETUM VARIEGATUM	VARIEGATED HORSETAIL	G5	S3		SC	Damp, often calcareous sands, shores, marly bogs
MIMULUS RINGENS VAR COLPOPHILUS	ESTUARY MONKEYFLOWER	G5T2Q	S2	C2	WL	Shores, meadows, and wet places
SAGITTARIA SPATULATA	SPONGY ARROW-HEAD	G5T4	S3		WL	Tidewater marshes and streams
VIOLA LABRADORICA	ALPINE VIOLET	G5	S1		N	Wet to dry rocks, sands, woods, swamps, or openings

7 Records Processed

A RANK EXPLANATION SHEET IS ENCLOSED



## MAINE NATURAL AREAS PROGRAM

### STATE RANKS (S-RANK)

- S1** Critically imperiled in Maine because of extreme rarity (five or fewer occurrences or very few remaining individuals or acres) or because some aspect of its biology makes it especially vulnerable to extirpation from the State of Maine.
- S2** Imperiled in Maine because of rarity (6-20 occurrences or few remaining individuals or acres) or because of other factors making it vulnerable to further decline.
- S3** Rare in Maine (on the order of 20-100 occurrences).
- S4** Apparently secure in Maine.
- S5** Demonstrably secure in Maine.
- SA** Accidental in Maine, including species that only sporadically breed in Maine.
- SE** An exotic species established in Maine; may be native elsewhere in North America.
- SH** Occurred historically in Maine, and could be rediscovered; not known to have been extirpated.
- SU** Possibly in peril in Maine, but status uncertain; need more information.
- SX** Apparently extirpated in Maine (historically occurring species for which habitat no longer exists in Maine).

Note: "S-RANKS" determined by the Maine Natural Areas Program.

"G-RANKS" indicate global ranks as determined by The Nature Conservancy, and follow the criteria listed above for state ranks. For example, "G1" means 1-5 occurrences and critically imperiled throughout its entire range.

### MAINE STATUS: PLANTS

NOTE: This column reflects State-listed status according to 5 M.R.S.A. § 13076-13079, which mandates the Department of Conservation to produce and biennially update the official list of Maine's endangered and threatened plants. The list is derived by a technical advisory committee of botanists who use data in the Natural Areas Program's database to recommend status changes to the Department of Conservation. The current official list is based on 1988 data, and bears a printing date of May 1990. In June 1990, the advisory committee conducted its biennial update, and proposed status changes for certain species. These changes (noted in parentheses on the list) remain unofficial because the June 1990 list has not been signed by the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation.

- E** ENDANGERED SPECIES; represented in Maine by one recent (within the last twenty years) documented occurrence, or federally listed as Endangered (but see exceptions below).
- T** THREATENED SPECIES; represented in Maine by two to four recent documented occurrences, or federally listed as Threatened (but see exceptions below).
- SC** SPECIAL CONCERN; represented in Maine by five to ten recent documented occurrences and could, within the foreseeable future become Threatened (but see exceptions below).
- PE** POSSIBLY EXTIRPATED; has not been documented in Maine within the last twenty years (zero recent occurrences). If found and documented, the taxon is placed in Endangered status.
- WL** WATCH LIST; represented in Maine by more than ten recent, documented occurrences, but still of concern.
- N** NOMINATED; meets criteria for Endangered or Threatened status.
- C** CANDIDATE; need further information to determine list status.

**Exceptions** to the numerical criteria for these categories are (a) small population sizes, (b) confined to a small geographic area in Maine, and (c) the taxon is clearly and imminently jeopardized.

### FEDERAL STATUS

- LE** Listed as Endangered at the national level.
- LT** Listed as Threatened at the national level.
- C2** Category 2; Candidate taxa which may qualify as Threatened or Endangered, but insufficient data exist to determine true status.
- 3B** Formerly a listed or candidate species but recent taxonomic revisions indicate "species" status is not longer valid and no longer meets the Endangered Species Act's definition of a species.
- 3C** Formerly listed, but is now known to be more abundant or widespread than previously believed; not subject to any identifiable threat.



STATE OF MAINE

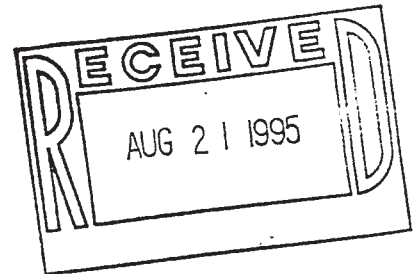
# DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

ANGUS S. KING, JR.  
GOVERNOR

EDWARD O. SULLIVAN  
COMMISSIONER

August 17, 1995

William M. Plumpton  
Gannett Fleming, Inc.  
P.O. Box 67100  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-7100



RE: Environmental Assessment for I-95 Interchange, Bangor, Maine

Dear Mr. Plumpton:

I received your request for information on identification of threatened or endangered species, etc. at the site of the proposed I-95 interchange in Bangor. I have spoken with Stacie Beyer, who is with the Division of Land Resource Regulation (DLRR) in our Bangor office, and understand that she will be the lead staff person for this project at DEP. I also understand that there has been a pre-application meeting, which Stacie attended. As I am not involved in the review of projects such as this, I have forwarded your letter to her.

If you wish to contact Stacie Beyer directly, you can reach her at:

Maine Department of Environmental Protection  
106 Hogan Road  
Bangor, Maine 04401  
tel. #: 207-941-4570

Sincerely,

Donald T. Witherill, Director  
Division of Watershed Management

Copies provided:

Stacie Beyer

*Serving Maine People & Protecting Their Environment*

AUGUSTA  
STATE HOUSE STATION 17  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017  
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7828  
OFFICE LOCATED AT: RAY BUILDING, HOSPITAL STREET

PORTLAND  
312 CANCO ROAD  
PORTLAND, ME 04103  
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

BANGOR  
106 HOGAN ROAD  
BANGOR, ME 04401  
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PRESQUE ISLE  
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK  
PRESQUE ISLE, ME 04769  
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 764-1507

*printed on recycled paper*



STATE OF MAINE

# DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

ANGUS S. KING, JR.  
GOVERNOR

EDWARD O. SULLIVAN  
COMMISSIONER

August 28, 1995



William Plumpton  
Gannett Fleming, Inc.  
P.O. Box 67100  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-7100

RE: Environmental Assessment, Proposed Interchange I-95, Bangor, Maine

Dear Mr. Plumpton:

The Department has received your letter, dated August 9, 1995, stating that your firm has been retained by the Maine Department of Transportation to prepare an environmental analysis of the above referenced project. In your letter, you had requested my Department's assistance in identification of sensitive or unique features of concern in the project area.

I have forwarded your letter and accompanying material to Ms. Stacie Beyer in our Bangor Regional Office for her consideration. Ms. Beyer is a staff person in our Bureau of Land and Water Quality, which oversees major developments under the Site Location of Development Law and developments affecting water resources, including wetlands, under the Natural Resources Protection Act. She would be the appropriate individual to discuss your work with. She may be reached at (207) 941-4570.

Sincerely,

Edward O. Sullivan

*Serving Maine People & Protecting Their Environment*

AUGUSTA  
STATE HOUSE STATION 17  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0017  
(207) 287-7688 FAX: (207) 287-7826  
OFFICE LOCATED AT: RAY BUILDING, HOSPITAL STREET

PORTLAND  
312 CANCO ROAD  
PORTLAND, ME 04103  
(207) 822-6300 FAX: (207) 822-6303

BANGOR  
106 HOGAN ROAD  
BANGOR, ME 04401  
(207) 941-4570 FAX: (207) 941-4584

PRESQUE ISLE  
1235 CENTRAL DRIVE, SKYWAY PARK  
PRESQUE ISLE, ME 04769  
(207) 764-0477 FAX: (207) 764-1507

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Angus S. King, Jr.  
Governor

Ray B. Owen, Jr.  
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

August 16, 1995

Gannett Fleming  
Engineers and Planners  
P.O. Box 67100, P.O. Box 1958  
Harrisburg, Pa. 17106-7100  
Attn: William M. Plumptre

Dear Mr. Plumptre:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your request for identification of any threatened, endangered, and special status wildlife species and habitats, in conjunction with your evaluation of a proposed new interchange at Interstate 95 and Stillwater Avenue in Bangor.

The request will be forwarded to Regional Biologists Eugene Dumont (Wildlife) and Dennis McNeish (Fisheries) at our Sidney Regional Headquarters since they are most directly knowledgeable of the areas of concern. I trust they will be able to respond directly to you.

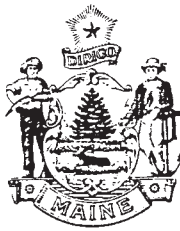
Thank you for sending your request through this office. Our Access to Files Policy allows us to allocate appropriate staff time to fulfill your request. If a State permit is subsequently filed for this project, we will likely provide more detailed site specific review and comment at that time. If there are any questions, please contact Steve Timpano of our staff at 287-3286.

Sincerely yours,

*Steven A. Timpano*

*for* Frederick B. Hurley, Director  
Bureau of Resource Management

FBH/jk  
cc: E. Dumont/D. McNeish (w/enc.)



Angus S. King, Jr.  
Governor

Ray B. Owen, Jr.  
Commissioner

DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE



August 21, 1995  
Fishery Division  
RFD 1, Box 6378  
Waterville, ME  
04901

William M. Plumpton, Project Mngr.  
Gannett Fleming, Inc.  
P.O. Box 67100  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-7100

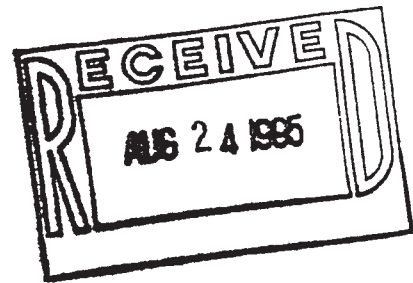
Dear Mr. Plumpton:

I am writing to advise you that no known listed or proposed threatened or endangered inland fish species or critical fish habitats occur within the project area for the proposed I-95/Stillwater interchange. You may wish to consult the Atlantic Searun Salmon Commission and the Department of Marine Resources for input regarded anadromous and marine fish species. Pertinent information on wildlife species and habitats will be forwarded to you under separate cover.

Sincerely yours,

J. Dennis McNeish,  
Regional Fisheries Biologist

cc: Timpano



Angus S. King, Jr.  
Governor

Ray B. Owen, Jr.  
Commissioner

## DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

Wildlife Division, RFD #1 Box 6378, Waterville, ME 04901  
August 21, 1995

William M. Plumpton  
Gannett Fleming  
P. O. Box 67100  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-7100

Re: Wildlife Habitat Information Request - Stillwater Ave. in Bangor

Dear Mr. Plumpton:

Thank you for your request for the identification of any **Essential** or **Significant Wildlife Habitats** as well as other areas of special concern associated with the creation of a new interchange at I-95 and Stillwater Ave. in Bangor, Maine.

### Essential Habitats:

**Essential Habitats** are defined as "areas currently or historically providing physical or biological features essential to the conservation of an Endangered or Threatened species in Maine and which may require special management considerations". **Essential Habitat** protection in Maine currently applies only to bald eagle nest sites and roseate tern colonies, however additional listed species may receive attention in the future.

According to MDIFW records, there are no **Essential Habitats** known to be associated with this site.

### Significant Wildlife Habitats:

The Natural Resources Protection Act, administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, provides protection to certain natural resources including **Significant Wildlife Habitats**. **Significant Wildlife Habitats** are defined by the NRPA as:

- \* Habitat for State and Federally listed Endangered and Threatened species

- \* High and moderate value deer wintering areas and travel corridors
- \* High and moderate value waterfowl and wading bird habitats, including nesting and feeding areas
- \* Shorebird nesting, feeding, and staging areas
- \* Seabird nesting islands

According to MDIFW records there are one "candidate" Significant Wildlife Habitat known to be associated with the area. On the enclosed map you will see WWH # 031254 is located within the study area.

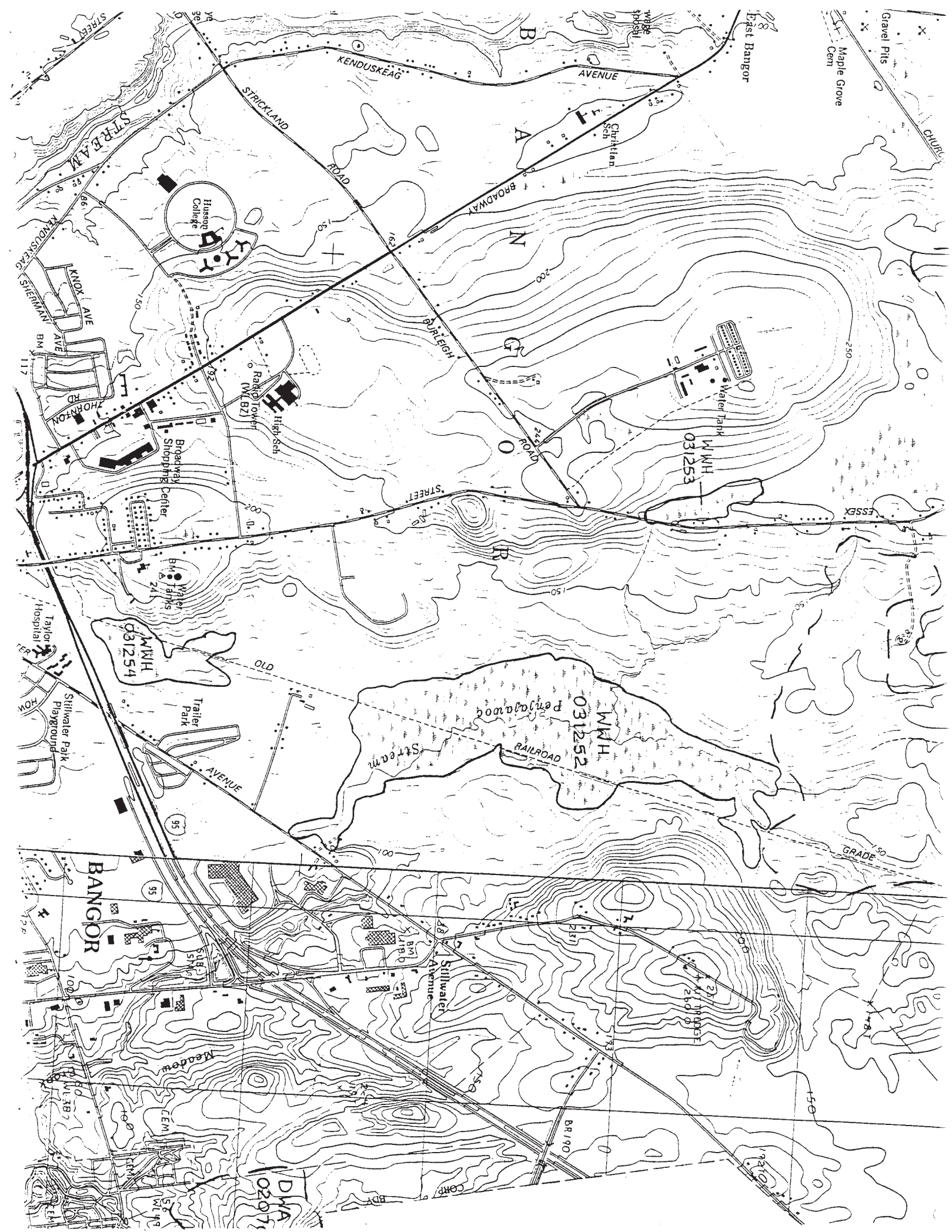
I trust that this letter has addressed your request. If I can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me at 547-4165.

Sincerely,



G. Keel Kemper  
Assistant Regional Wildlife Biologist







CITY OF

*Bangor*

MAINE



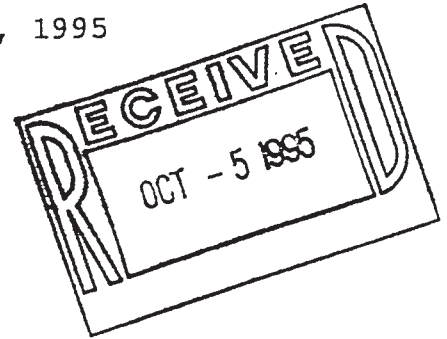
73 HARLOW STREET  
BANGOR, MAINE 04401

DEPARTMENT of COMMUNITY and ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
Kenneth R. Gibb, Director

TEL 207/945-4400

Planning Division

October 3, 1995



William M. Plumpton  
Gannett Fleming, Inc.  
P.O. Box 67100  
Harrisburg, PA 17106-7100

Dear Mr. Plumpton:

My apologies for responding to your letter of inquiry at this late date. However, I did not realize that you were seeking an indication of our feeling about this project and our support for it with that letter.

As we have discussed with representatives of your firm at various meetings over the past few weeks, the City is very much in favor of the proposed I-95 interchange at Stillwater Avenue. This is based on an understanding of the analysis of traffic conditions and projections in the area as well as a review of several potential alternatives by a citizens advisory committee that worked with the Maine Department of Transportation over a period of several months prior to the initiation of your study. The City of Bangor City Council and Planning Board are well aware of this project and the need for it and have endorsed it. The Citizen's Advisory Committee which represented a cross-section of interest in the area and in the community, also has wholeheartedly endorsed the idea of an interchange at this location.

From a City Staff perspective we feel that the research done to date indicates that both the interests of the traveling public on this section of the Interstate and those visiting or with economic interest in this general area of the Bangor Mall will be best served by providing additional access to this area from Interstate 95 at this location.

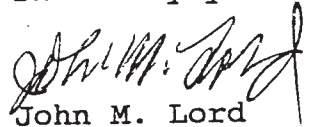
While we support the interchange project at this site, we are well aware of potential impacts of such a change in the circulation system on the area and we have real concerns about how the interchange will be configured and how we will coordinate other highway improvements in this area with it.

To that end we have requested that the area Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (so-called BACTS) undertake a planning study for the future improvement of Stillwater Avenue through this section of the City which will be coordinated with the establishment of a new interchange.

Also, in passing, I should like to comment on our concerns for minimizing any impact on the residential area in-town (southwest) of the proposed interchange. We have a high quality residential neighborhood which we wish to impact as little as possible from interstate interchange generated traffic. From what we have seen at the conceptual stage of this project in our meetings with the Maine Department of Transportation, we would favor a northbound off-ramp which connects with Stillwater Avenue as close to the Bangor Mall and the adjacent commercial development as possible. This is because we understand that the further out Stillwater Avenue this ramp connects, the more Mall area traffic will be inclined to use it. Also, we feel that this will not encourage use of the off-bound ramp to access other destinations in this area of the City such as the downtown or the Eastern Maine Medical Center Complex located on State Street adjacent to the Penobscot River. We do not wish to create additional thru-traffic demand through our residential neighborhoods on the south side of I-95 in this area of the City.

We appreciate the opportunity to be able to comment at this point in your study. If we can be of further assistance to you, please feel free to call on us.

Sincerely yours,

  
John M. Lord  
Planning Officer

JML/j